

In the claims:

1. (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting tumor cell growth in a tumor cell that over-expresses thioredoxin comprising contacting said tumor cell with a cell growth inhibiting effective amount of an inhibitor of thioredoxin expression.
2. (withdrawn) A method of reducing inhibition of apoptosis in tumor cells that over-express thioredoxin comprising contacting said tumor cells with an effective amount of an agent that inhibits thioredoxin.
3. (withdrawn) A method of identifying an agent that inhibits tumor cell growth in cells that over-express thioredoxin comprising
measuring thioredoxin expression in a first sample of said cells;
contacting a second sample of said cells with an agent to be tested;
measuring expression of thioredoxin in said second sample;
comparing expression of thioredoxin in said first sample and said second sample;
whereby a decrease in expression of thioredoxin in said second sample is indicative of an agent that inhibits tumor cell growth.
4. (withdrawn) A method of identifying an agent that reduces inhibition of apoptosis in a tumor cell that over-expresses thioredoxin comprising
measuring thioredoxin expression in a first sample of said cells;
contacting a second sample of said cells with an agent to be tested;
measuring expression of thioredoxin in said second sample;
comparing expression of thioredoxin in said first sample and said second sample;
whereby a decrease in expression of thioredoxin in said second sample is indicative of an agent that reduces inhibition of apoptosis.

5. (withdrawn) A method of identifying an agent that reduces inhibition of apoptosis in a tumor cell growth.

6. (withdrawn) A method of stimulating cell growth comprising introducing a nucleic acid encoding a human thioredoxin having Ser at amino acid reside 73 under conditions whereby said nucleic acid is expressed.

7. (currently amended) A composition comprising an agent a 2-imidazolyl disulfide that is useful in reducing or eliminating thioredoxin-associated apoptosis inhibition and an pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8. (currently amended) A composition comprising an agent a 2-imidazolyl disulfide that is useful in inhibiting thioredoxin stimulated cell growth and an pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. (new) The composition of claim 7, wherein said 2-imidazolyl disulfide compound is 1-methylpropyl 2-imidazolyl disulfide.

10. (new) The composition of claim 8, wherein said 2-imidazolyl disulfide compound is 1-methylpropyl 2-imidazolyl disulfide.